

**What is claimed is:**

- Sub A2  
BT  
C1 5
1. A method of managing a plurality of messages hosted on a plurality of message stores comprising the steps of:
    - a. accepting message access request at a message access port; and
    - b. transmitting a set of corresponding access requests to a set of associated message stores.
  2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of :
    - c. accepting a set of replies from the associated message stores wherein the set of replies comprises a report of pending messages; and
    - 10 d. transmitting an output of a consolidated message list.
  3. The method of claim 2 further comprising the steps of:
    - e. accepting a second message process request;
    - f. transmitting a set of associated process requests to the set of associated message stores.
  - 15 4. The method of claim 3 wherein the message access port comprises a networked proxy server.
  - Sub A3 5. The method of claim 3 wherein the message stores have reassignable network addresses.
  6. The method of claim 3 wherein the POP3 standard is utilized in at least one
  - 20 step.
  7. The method of claim 3 wherein the consolidated message list comprises a list of e-mail messages.

- Sub A4
8. The method of claim 7 wherein an administrative module at the message access port performs predetermined service functions.
9. A system for managing a plurality of messages hosted on a plurality of message stores comprising:
- 5 a message port to accept an input of a message access request;  
a processor unit in communication with the message port, wherein the processor unit accesses the messages by communicating with the message stores.
10. The system of claim 9 wherein the processor unit communicates a request  
10 to each of the message stores to report pending messages.
11. The system of claim 9 wherein the messages comprise electronic mail.
12. The system of claim 9 wherein the message port comprises a networked proxy server.
- Sub A5
13. The system of claim 9 wherein the processor unit accepts input from the  
15 message stores and creates a pending message list.
14. The system of claim 13 wherein the processor unit accepts input to create process requests for the messages on the pending message list.
15. The system of claim 14 wherein the process requests comprise at least one  
~~of selecting messages, deleting messages and reading messages.~~
- 20 16. The system of claim 9 wherein the POP3 standard is utilized in at least one communication.
- Sub A6
17. The system of claim 9 wherein an administrative module at the message access port performs predetermined service functions.

18. A system for managing a plurality of messages hosted on a plurality of message store means comprising:
- message port means for accepting an input of a message access request;
- processing means for communicating with the message port, wherein
- 5 the processing means accesses the messages by communicating with the message store means.
19. The system of claim 18 wherein the processing means communicates a request to each of the message store means to report pending messages.
20. The system of claim 18 wherein the messages comprise electronic email.
- 10 21. The system of claim 18 wherein the message port means comprises a networked proxy server.
22. The system of claim 18 wherein the processing means accepts input from the message store means and creates a pending message list.
23. The system of claim 22 wherein the processing means accepts input to
- 15 create process requests for the messages on the pending message list.
24. The system of claim 23 wherein the process requests comprise at least one of selecting messages, deleting messages and reading messages.
25. A storage medium for storing computer readable code, the computer readable code being executable to manage a plurality of messages hosted on
- 20 a plurality of message stores according to the steps of:
- a. accepting an input of a message access request at a message access port; and

- b. transmitting a set of modified access requests to a set of associated message stores.

26. The method of claim 25 further comprising the steps of :

- c. accepting a set of replies from the associated message store wherein  
5 the set of replies comprises a report of pending messages; and
- d. transmitting an output of a consolidated message list.

27. The method of claim 26 further comprising the steps of:

- e. accepting a second input of a message process request;
- f. transmitting a set of modified process requests to the set of  
10 associated message stores.